

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

On page 1, above line 1, insert--Priority Claim

The present application claims priority on European Patent Application 01205146.2 filed 31 December 21.--

On page 1, delete line 1.

On page 1, above line 1, but below above, insert--Field of the Invention--

On page 1, above line 4, insert--Background of the Invention--

Paragraph at line 25 of page 4, has been amended as follows:

-- Suitably, the quality of the forge weld formed between the interconnected tubulars is inspected by means of an Electro-Magnetic Acoustic Transmission weld inspection technique, which is known as EMAT and described in US Pat. Nos. 5,652,389; 5,760,307; 5,777,229 and 6,155,117, wherein an electromagnetic coils are placed adjacent to both sides of the forge welded joint and held at a predetermined distance from the tubulars during the inspection process. The absence of physical contact between the wall of the hot tubulars and the coils of the EMAT inspection tool enables weld inspection immediately after the forge weld joint has been made. The foregoing features of the method and system according to the invention may be combined in different ways and some preferred embodiments of the method and system according to the invention will be described in more detail with reference to the accompanying drawings.--

On page 5, delete line 8.

On page 5, above line 9, insert--Brief Description of the Drawing--

On page 5, above line 30, insert--Detailed Embodiment of the Invention--

Paragraph at line 13 of page 9 has been amended as follows:

-- The quality of the forge weld made may be inspected instantly after the weld has been made by means of a hybrid electromagnetic acoustic transmission technique ~~which is known as EMAT, and described in US patent Nos. 5,652,389; 5,760,307; 5,777,229 and 6,155,117.~~ The EMAT technique makes use of an induction coil placed at

one side of the welded joint, which coil induces magnetic fields that generate electromagnetic forces in the surface of the welded joint. These forces then produce a mechanical disturbance by coupling to the atomic lattice through a scattering process. In electromagnetic acoustic generation, the conversion takes place within a skin depth of material, i.e. the metal surface is its own transducer. The reception takes place in a reciprocal way. When the elastic wave strikes the surface of the conductor in the presence of a magnetic field, induced currents are generated in the receiving coil, similar to the operation of an electric generator. An advantage of the EMAT weld inspection technology is that the inductive transmission and receiving coils do not have to contact the welded tubular. Thus the quality inspection can be done instantly after the forge weld is made, when the forge welded tubulars are still too hot to allow physical contact with an inspection probe.--

On page 18 after line 12, add the following paragraph:

--While the illustrative embodiments of the invention have been described with particularity, it will be understood that various other modifications will be readily apparent to, and can be easily made by one skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of the invention. Accordingly, it is not intended that the scope of the following claims be limited to the examples and descriptions set forth herein but rather that the claims be construed as encompassing all features which would be treated as equivalents thereof by those skilled in the art to which this invention pertains.--